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cap. This, with some strings of beads, a little polished iron wire round the arms, the never-failing pipe, and a small pair of iron tongs to lift up a coal to light it with, constitute all the clothing the most dandified Endah Pézé ever wears.

They raise immense quantities of tobacco on the banks of the Zambesi in the winter months, and are, perhaps, the most inveterate smokers in the world. The pipe is seldom out of their hands. They are as polite smokers as any ever found in a railway carriage. When they came with a present, although it was their own country, before lighting their pipes they asked if we had any objections to their smoking beside us, which of course, contrary to railway travellers, we never had. They have invented a novel mode of smoking, which may interest those who are fond of the weed at home. They take a whiff, puff out the grosser smoke, then by a sudden inhalation before all is out contrive to catch, as they say, and swallow the pure spirit of the tobacco, its real essence, which common smokers lose entirely. Their tobacco is said to be very strong; it is certainly very cheap; a few strings of beads will purchase as much as will last any reasonable smoker half a year. Their government, whatever it may have been formerly, is now that of separate and independent chiefs. The language is a dialect of that which is spoken by the natives on the Zambesi below them, and particularly marked by the characteristic use of the letter *r*, to the apparently total exclusion of the letter *l*. They have not been visited by any regular trader for many a day until shortly after we passed. A party of trading slaves, belonging to the two half-caste Portuguese who last year, with 400 slaves armed with the old Sepoy flint muskets, so treacherously assassinated the chief and 20 of his men near Zumba, and then took possession of all his lands on the Zambesi and Loangwa, followed in our spoor, and bought large quantities of ivory and a number of young slave-girls for a few beads. They also purchased 10 large new canoes for 6 strings of coarse white or red beads a-piece, or 2 fathoms of American calico. As traders are now sure to go to them with beads and cloth, the order of the Endah Pézés will in a short time be numbered among the things that were; for it is to be regretted that these traders belong to a nation whose subjects buy and sell slaves, and are the guilty agents for carrying on the slave-trade in all this part of Eastern Africa.

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4. *The River Rovuma.* Extract from "Pilotage remarks" of D. J. MAY, R.N., in charge of the *Pioneer*, Dr. Livingstone's Expedition.

THE river Rovuma is about 12 miles north-westward of Cape Delgado, in lat.  $10^{\circ} 28' \text{ s.}$ , long.  $40^{\circ} 30' \text{ E.}$ ; the entrance is 1 mile in breadth, situated on the south side of a bay 6 miles in length and 3 in breadth, formed by Rovuma Point on the south, and the island of Nizambari on the north.

In rounding Rovuma Point, the entrance of the river is not easily made out until it bears s.w. (there being many other smaller openings to the north and south of it), on which bearing a vessel may anchor in 5 or 7 fathoms. During the time the *Pioneer* was here she anchored for a fortnight off the entrance, when the ebb-tide made out of the river the whole time, overcoming the flood-tide, which in springs rises to 18 feet, and in neaps to 5 feet.

The navigable entrance to the river is only  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile, owing to projecting sand-banks on both sides; and, although there is no bar, it is dangerous for boats to attempt the entrance between half-flood and half-ebb, on account of the over-falls caused by the sudden change in the depth from 3 to 17 fathoms.

About 2 miles inside the entrance commence a series of sand-banks, which obstruct the channel, rendering the navigation very intricate, by a narrow passage which runs from one side of the river abruptly to the other, with a depth of only 5 or 6 feet in many places.

At the beginning of March, 1861, the river Rovuma was at its maximum height of the season. It subsided, and then rose again towards the close of the month to nearly its original height, and it was between these periods that our examination was made. We reached 30 miles up the river, and, as the water began to fall rapidly, it was thought best to return to the entrance to clear the shoal patches, over which we barely carried 5 feet. At the point of our turning there appeared no more difficulty to our further progress, but the falling tide would not permit it.

The navigation of the river is not only intricate, but it has a down-current of 3 knots per hour, and near the mouth a pulling boat could not stem it. Wood for steaming purposes is easily procurable, especially near the sea. The inhabitants were few: they were shy and timid, and could only give us a scanty supply of provisions. The water of the river on our first using it affected every one on board, but it ceased doing so when we became accustomed to it. Comparing the Rovuma with the Niger, as to their qualities as rivers, and comparing also the people and productions about them, the Rovuma is most markedly inferior; but it may yet be shown that we have much more to learn about it.

I do not think it very unhealthy, although, on our return to the mouth, nearly every person on board the *Pioneer* became ill. I attribute the sickness to exposure and to the hard work we had just experienced, and to our being anchored off a foul mud-creek, close to a mangrove forest, for convenience of wooding.

A comparison of the rivers Shiré and Rovuma will incline to the conclusion that they do not proceed from the same source. The Shiré is deep, clear, and subject to little variation of rise or fall; the Rovuma is shallow, muddy, and, according to Krapf, was but a small stream when he passed its mouth.

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